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(54) Title: METHOD FOR SCREENING FOR ANTI-AMYLOIDOGENIC PROPERTIES AND METHOD FOR TREATMENT OF NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASE

(57) Abstract

(30) Priority Data:

60/103,310

In methods for screening treatments for, and treatment of, neurodegenerative diseases, aggregation in neurons of NACP/ α -synuclein is measured and expression of a non-amyloidogenic protein is stimulated in order to reduce the level aggregation. For purposes of screening agents for treatment of neurodegenerative disease, oxidative stress in the neuronal cells is stimulated by introducing a mixture of metal-ions and hydrogen peroxide. Examples of appropriate metals include iron, aluminum, and copper. After introduction of the agent under evaluation for stimulation of expression of non-amyloidogenic protein, the effectiveness is measured by testing for a decrease in the level of aggregation of NACP/ α -synuclein. In an examplary embodiment, the non-amyloidogenic protein is β -synuclein. The aggregation of $NACP/\alpha$ -synuclein is dependent upon the concentration of metal ions in the neuronal cells. In addition, the presence of chelating agents appears to modulate the build-up of NACP/ α -synuclein aggregates which are responsible for synaptic and neuronal dysfunction.

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Boxi	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)			
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:				
1. X	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Remark: Although claims 1-3 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.			
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Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)			
This Int	emational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:			
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers all searchable claims.			
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According to	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national class	ification and IPC	
B. FIELDS			
	currentation searched (classification system followed by classific A61K C07K G01N	cation symbols)	
Documentat	ion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent th	at such documents are included in the fields ea	arched
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data	base and, where practical, search terms used)
C. DOCUMI	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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X Fur	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed	l in annex.
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P docum	ent published prior to the international filing date but than the priority date claimed	*& document member of the same paten	
	actual completion of the international search 4 April 2000	Date of mailing of the international ed	earch report
	mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer	
DARB GITTERN	European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Moreau, J	•

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	etion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
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